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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. _____

Supporting the goals and ideals of Dominican Heritage Month.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ESPAILLAT submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of Dominican Heritage
Month.

Whereas the House of Representatives is proud to recognize
and commemorate Dominican Heritage Month, an ob-
servance that celebrates the contributions of Dominican
Americans;

Whereas in keeping with its time-honored traditions, we rec-
ognize and pay tribute to those who foster cultural pride
and enhance the profile of diverse communities across the
United States;

Whereas Dominicans are freedom-loving people who first
began their campaign for their independence in 1831
under the leadership of Juan Pablo Duarte;

Whereas after the long and hard-fought campaign for freedom, a ceremonial musket shot fired on February 27, 1844, marked the Dominican Republic's first official Independence Day;

Whereas January 26 marks the beginning of the "Mes de la Patria" (Month of the Fatherland), a period in which the country celebrates the founding fathers and the symbols that identify Dominicans in the world;

Whereas it would be befitting to celebrate Dominican heritage beginning on January 21, The Day of the Procession of Altagracia, the Dominican Republic's most important religious celebration;

Whereas it would also be befitting to end the period of Dominican heritage on February 27, the Dominican Republic's Independence Day;

Whereas Dominicans in the United States and abroad reserve the period between January 21 to February 27 to celebrate and honor Dominican heritage;

Whereas celebrating Dominican Heritage Month gives the Nation the opportunity to acknowledge and applaud the economic, cultural, and social contributions Dominican Americans have made to the United States;

Whereas the Dominican Studies Institute of the City University of New York is working on a National Register of Historic Places application for submission to the National Park Service that would create a noncontiguous cultural heritage district to document, acknowledge, and honor the contributions of the Dominican community; and

Whereas approximately 2,400,000 people of Dominican origin currently reside in the United States, and over 2,000,000 United States tourists visit the Dominican Republic an-

nually, accounting for the largest number of foreign tourists to the country and bolstering its economically critical tourism sector: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of Dominican
3 Heritage Month;

4 (2) reaffirms its commitment to strengthening
5 the historic partnership between the United States
6 and the Dominican Republic based on shared democratic values and efforts to advance economic prosperity and national security;

9 (3) supports the establishment of a national
10 Dominican Heritage Month to honor the Dominican
11 people and their contributions; and

12 (4) encourages the people of the United States
13 to observe a national month of recognition for Dominican Americans with appropriate ceremonies,
14 programs, and activities.
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